



GREYFRIARS COMMUNITY NEWS

Keeping you up to date with what's going on in and around Greyfriars Kirk

The **Minister**, Richard Frazer, the **Associate Minister**, Ruth Halley, or the **Parish Associate**, Gillian Couper, are happy to speak to anyone to discuss any matter, whether you are a member or not. Please contact either:

- Richard on 07715 069 041 or by email at minister@greyfriarskirk.com, or
- Ruth on 07530 307 413 or by email at associate.minister@greyfriarskirk.com, or
- Gillian on 07808 472 464 or by email at parishassociate@greyfriarskirk.com.

THIS SUNDAY: 20 FEBRUARY 2022

11.00 am Morning Worship - provide Track & Trace details at the door.

12.30 pm Gaelic Service - provide Track & Trace details at the door.

7.00 pm Refugio - Holy Communion with silence and symbol.

NEXT SUNDAY: 27 FEBRUARY 2022

11.00 am Holy Communion - provide Track & Trace details at the door.

12.30 pm Gaelic Service - provide Track & Trace details at the door.

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT: 6 MARCH 2022

9.30 am Holy Communion - provide Track & Trace details at the door.

11.00 am Morning Worship with our local ecumenical partner churches Augustine United and St Columba's by the Castle - provide Track & Trace details at the door.

12.30 pm Gaelic Service - provide Track & Trace details at the door.

Midweek Prayers

Join us in-person each Thursday in the sanctuary from 1:10 - 1:30 pm for this special time of prayer and reflection.

Giving to the Kirk

We remain totally dependent on the generous financial support of our members, regular attenders, online visitors and friends. As we cannot circulate the usual offering plate as widely, the online alternative is through this link: <https://bit.ly/greyfriarsdonate>. Although headings on that page refer to Greyfriars Outreach, all donations will be used for the same general Greyfriars Kirk purposes as regular offerings: ministry, the Kirk building and staff. Many thanks.

If you are shopping on-line with AMAZON, please can you pay via AMAZON SMILE? This is their way of giving a proportion of your purchase amount right back to Greyfriars Kirk. Again, you can help the Kirk in this way without any monetary impact at all on your bank balance! All that you need to do is quote Greyfriars Kirk's Charity number, which is SC003761.

Greyfriars Lunchtime Concerts

The popular Greyfriars lunchtime concerts at 12 noon on Thursdays continue on Thursday 24 February with a piano recital by John Longley. Admission is free.

Study Service: Sundays at 7.00 pm

There is usually a Study Service on the first Sunday of each month, and a Bible Study on the third Sunday.

This Sunday, the Bible Study is on John 14, the first of the three magnificent chapters of the "farewell discourse" of Jesus which marks the transition from his "earthly ministry" to his "heavenly ministry". This did not mean Jesus would no longer work on earth for he continues to do so, but that he would now be working through his disciples.

Jesus tells his disciples not to be afraid because he would be leaving them and going to the Father, for he would return to them, but not only that, for he **and** the Father would come to them (us) and make their home with them (us).

Jesus' "leaving" the disciples is the transition from all he had achieved for us (in life, death and resurrection to eternal life) to his returning to us through the Spirit in order to share with us all he had won for us. **It is the transition from what he had worked out for us in himself to his working it out in us.** Through his Spirit, he would therefore be working out in us what he had already worked out for us in his very humanity.

Jesus therefore goes on in chapters 15 and 16 to explain what it would mean for his disciples to "abide in him", to share in his life and ministry. Far from "leaving" them, Jesus would in fact be even more present to his disciples through his Spirit, than he was when on earth.

If you are interested in joining this special Zoom gathering, please get in touch to find out more: www.greyfriarskirk.com/get-in-touch or visit the [Study Service](#) page on our website.

Grassmarket Community Project - Activities to Join in

The GCP has resumed running a wide variety of activities at Augustine United and Coffee Saints while the Centre is closed for the duration of the building project for the Pavilion in the courtyard. These activities are a great opportunity to socialise with others in the Greyfriars and Grassmarket communities, learn something interesting, or have a bit of fun! Online there is Scottish History, Guitar, Yoga, a book group, mindfulness and more. There are also coffee break sessions, at which it's always particularly nice to see some new face, and good for those that just want to drop in for a bit. In person activities include Art, Reading and Writing, Tartan Skills and IT where people are gaining skills to go online as well as many other useful tips.

Check all these out here: [Plan C - Grassmarket Community Project](#). You are very warmly welcome to join in! If you'd like any more information, to receive the regular community bulletin saying what's on, or to speak to someone at the GCP, you can call 0131 225 3626 or email info@grassmarket.org.

CHANGE IN A TIME OF CHAOS

A Series of Science & Faith webinars with St Columbas-by-the-Castle



Tues 1st March at 19:30

What did the Neanderthals ever do for us? Lessons in resilience and survival from deep history.

With Rebecca Wragg Sykes
& Mhairi Davies



St Columbas-by-the-Castle Episcopal Church, Edinburgh

SCO16571



What did the Neanderthals ever do for us? Lessons in resilience and survival from deep history. With Rebecca Wragg Sykes of Liverpool University and Mhairi Davies of Historic Environment Scotland.

Our speakers will be in conversation about the relationship between hominin activity and environmental change - the lessons we might take from the deep time of the Neanderthals and later prehistory about resilience and survival, to help us meet the challenges of Climate Change now. The conversation will be chaired by Professor Judith George, classicist and Late Antique historian.

Dr Rebecca Wragg Sykes is an archaeologist, author and Honorary Fellow in the School of Archaeology, Classics and Egyptology at the University of Liverpool. Her critically acclaimed and bestselling first book [KINDRED: Neanderthal Life, Love, Death and Art](#) is a deep dive into the 21st century science and understanding of these ancient relatives. Winner of the 2021 PEN Hessel-Tiltman prize for history; awarded Book of the Year by *Current Archaeology*; selected as one of 2021's 100 Notable Books by *The New York Times*. Alongside her academic expertise and consultancy work, Rebecca has earned a reputation for exceptional public communication, and is a popular speaker, appearing on a variety of programmes for BBC Radio 3 and 4 such as *Front Row*, *Start The Week*, *The Infinite Monkey Cage* and *Free Thinking* as well as numerous other radio and podcasts.

Dr Mairi Davies is Climate Change Policy Manager at Historic Environment Scotland (HES), leading the development of climate change, sustainability and environmental plans and policies and overseeing delivery of the [HES Climate Action Plan 2020-2025](#). Previously an Inspector of Ancient Monuments, Mairi has worked for HES and its predecessor organisation Historic Scotland for many years. An archaeologist, she is a graduate of Edinburgh and Durham Universities with a specialism in the later prehistory of Eastern Scotland. She has a particular interest in the relationship between human activity and environmental change and how our understanding of the past might help us meet the challenges presented by the Climate Emergency.

The speaker discussion will be followed by questions from the audience, moderated by Professor Judith George. This webinar will be on Zoom, please register here:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_iilOafF3RrSswlaF7HLOHw

Coffee Saints - Monday Morning Meet-ups



Grassmarket Community Project have told us about a great new initiative they are starting in October – it is open to everyone. And of course part of the joy of a natter, is having someone to natter too – so if you have a spare hour on a Monday, and might enjoy a chat for any reason, please do consider going along and joining in. Here's what it is all about:

If you have found that you have lost touch with friends during lockdown, you have become isolated and missing social interaction or are looking to make new friends and have a good old natter, please come along to our Monday Morning meet up in Coffee Saints at 1 Little King Street every Monday from 9:30 am- 11:30 am. This initiative between St Marys Cathedral and the Grassmarket Community Project will start on Monday 4 October. If you are a member of the Grassmarket Community Project (and if you are not, everyone is welcome to join!) you can use your discount card for 10% off teas and coffee and we will throw in the biscuits, smiles and chat for free. Everyone is welcome and we look forward to meeting you.

If you would like to volunteer to help facilitate our Monday Morning Meet-up please get in touch with Catherine catherine@grassmarket.org

Pastoral Care and Staying in Touch

The ministry team and pastoral volunteers at the church enjoy staying in touch with folk in the congregation and community. It is great to hear how folk are getting on, share news about what is going on in the life of the community, enjoy friendship and support each other when it is needed. If you would like to chat, or you know someone that might need some help or would simply enjoy hearing from us, please do get in touch with Gillian, Richard, or Ruth, by the contact details at the top of this newsletter.

If you would like to send in any comments, ideas, requests or queries, please email the office at communications@greyfriarskirk.com. Any thoughts, large or small, very welcome.